

Focus on Fifth

Weekly News for Holmes Fifth-Grade Families

News and Events in the 5th Grade

April 20, 2015

www.op97.org

Important Dates

Rockin' Lock In - May 1-2

News

Message from Brooks:

We hope that you enjoyed our incoming Parent Orientation. We understand the wealth of information you just received, and would like to invite you to an open Q & A at your child's current grade school.

Principal Mike Michowski and 6th Grade Assistant Principal April Capuder will be visiting your school to answer your questions. They will be available at Holmes for a 45 minute Q & A for parents on Monday, April 20, at 6:30pm.

We look forward to seeing you all there.

Rockin' Lock In

Our annual Lock In is scheduled for Friday, May 1 through Saturday, May 2. Permission slips were distributed last week and parents were sent an email to sign up for a mandatory shift. Please be sure to get this information in as soon as possible.

Typing Practice

Students can log on to Typing Training from home to practice keyboarding skills. The Typing Training program is accessible from the District's website, and students should begin practicing keyboarding skills at home. The link is:
<http://www.op97.org/technology/Custom-Typing.cfm>

SPECIAL AREA SUBJECTS

Art - www.http://owholmesartgallery.blogspot.com and Twitter @HolmesArt97. We are now working on comic strips. Students will be writing and illustrating a non-fiction, autobiographical, six-panel comic strip. It can be about something funny that happened to them, or something they are proud of. This week we are learning about and creating storyboards for our comics.

Music - <http://makingmusicatholmes.blogspot.com/> Third trimester is upon us! You should have received a pink letter with information on the assessments for 3rd trimester as well as the music for the recorder assessment. The music for the recorder assessment is also on the [fifth grade website](#). There is a video on the website as well. We will have a help session next Monday 4/27 at 11:45 for anyone who wants to work on their playing with me. If your child did not receive a pink assessment letter, please email me at akaria@op97.org

Chorus - Congratulation on a wonderful District 97 Choral Festival! I hope you all enjoyed it as much I did. We still at least one more performance this year. On May 22 (tentative date) the chorus will perform with gold belt and a few other performance ensembles in a school assembly.

Gold Belt is working on Canon in D featuring soprano, alto, tenor, and bass recorders as well as other pieces for our spring concert. On May 22 (tentative date) the chorus will perform with gold belt and a few other performance ensembles in a school assembly. There may also be a night concert for parents to attend around that time. Details to come!

Spanish - Here is the current fifth grade story that was written collaboratively by all 4 classes: https://docs.google.com/a/op97.org/document/d/1AZSr_auDBvJ2yIBA44g3tA0IsJmyUXKaBBddXMmiyuY/edit?usp=sharing

We are finishing up acting out the story and completing our final assessments this week.

Library - *Regular Library news*: We have started a long-term research project in the library using the Oak Park Public Library's shared databases to conduct our research. We are using CultureGrams to research a country of the student's choice. If you are not familiar with these databases, take a look at the library's homework help page: <http://oppl.org/services/kids/homework-help> This incredible list of databases can be used by any D97 student without a library card while at school. From home, students will need to type in a library card number and PIN. This week we will review note taking skills- summarizing information from CultureGrams in our own words to use for a later narrative.

Reading Olympics: The Holmes competition is this week on Wednesday, April 22nd. The winning team of three will join the rest of District 97 as well as other local schools at the Oak Park Public Library for the **Extreme Competition!** This takes place April 27th and features all 18 books. Please email mmaneck@op97.org with any questions or concerns. For more information, the library home page is <http://www.op97.org/holmes/mediacenter/>.

Physical Education - February is Gymnastic Unit here at Holmes. The kids will be swinging, hanging, climbing, rolling, cartwheeling, somersaulting, and many other equilibrium building balancing acts. (www.d97mrwilliams.blogspot.com)

Reading/Literature

In Reading this week we will read non-fiction articles that relate to the American Revolution. We will also continue reading My Brother Sam Is Dead. This historical fiction novel takes place at the beginning of the American Revolution.

Writing

Students will be working on their classroom Shakespeare plays.

Math

On Monday and Tuesday of this week, we will work on decimal division word problems. Classwork and homework pages are posted on the math page of the 5th grade wiki. [Click here for a link to the math page](#). The unit assessment will be on Wednesday. On Thursday, we will begin a unit on plane geometry.

Science

Thank you to our families, who did such a great job supporting our students in conducting experiments and reporting their results. The Science Fair was a wonderful display of creativity and hard work. This week, we will begin our study of energy, beginning with energy flow and moving to food webs. Next week, we will move into plant cycles and will plan our tower garden, which doesn't require soil.

Social Studies

In Social Studies we will continue to learn about events that led to the American Revolution. As we do this we will view them from the perspectives of Loyalists, Patriots, and Native Americans. This week we will examine the Boston Massacre using primary documents written by a colonist and a British soldier. We will also analyze four different artistic depictions of the event and decide what they tell us about their creators. Later in the week we will compare and contrast the famous poem, "Paul Revere's Ride" by Henry Longfellow to the events that actually happened.

Spelling/Word Study

Students will complete our Building Vocabulary with Root Words curriculum during their Reading/Literature block. We learn that the bases "scrib" and "script" mean "write" and that "dict" means "say," "speak," or "tell."

Visit the **Holmes Digital Backpack** - <http://www.op97.org/holmes/digitalbackpack/>

We're on the Web!

Visit us at: <http://holmes5thgrade.wikispaces.com/>

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